196543 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Caption of Case) OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN RE: Carraways Treasures & Collectibles Complainant, **COVER SHEET** Verizon South, Inc. and Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., DOCKET NUMBER: 2008 - 347 - C (Please type or print) SC Bar Number: 1808 William E. DuRant, Jr. Submitted by: 803-774-1000 Telephone: 10 Law Range Address: 803-774-1005 Fax: Sumter, SC 29150 Other: gdurant@legaloff.net **Email:** NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely. DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply) Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda expeditiously ☐ Emergency Relief demanded in petition Other: NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply) INDUSTRY (Check one) Request Letter M Affidavit ☐ Electric Request for Certification Agreement ☐ Electric/Gas Request for Investigatio **☐** Motion Answer ☐ Electric/Telecommunications Resale Agreement ☐ Objection Appellate Review Electric/Water Resale Amendment Petition □ Application Electric/Water/Telecom. Reservation Letter Petition for Reconsideration ☐ Brief ☐ Electric/Water/Sewer Response Petition for Rulemaking Certificate Gas Response to Discovery Petition for Rule to Show Cause Comments Railroad Return to Petition Petition to Intervene Complaint Sewer Petition to Intervene Out of Time ☐ Stipulation Consent Order Telecommunications Subpoena Subpoena Prefiled Testimony Discovery Transportation Tariff ☐ Promotion ☐ Exhibit Water Other: Proposed Order Expedited Consideration ☐ Water/Sewer ☐ Protest Interconnection Agreement Administrative Matter Publisher's Affidavit Interconnection Amendment Other: Report ☐ Late-Filed Exhibit

#### SCHWARTZ, McLEOD, DURANT & JORDAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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R. KIRK MCLEOD (1921-1987) RAMON SCHWARTZ, JR. WILLIAM E. DURANT, JR. MICHAEL M. JORDAN

T. D. WILLIAMS, IV

December 15, 2008

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Charles L. A. Terreni
Chief Clerk & Administrator
ATTN: Docketing Department
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, SC 29210

RE: Carraways Treasures & Collectibles v. Verizon South, Inc., et al

Docket No. 2008-347-C

Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is an original and twenty five (25) copies of its Direct Testimony in the above referenced matter. By copy of this letter and certificate of service, all parties of record are being served by U.S. Mail with a copy of the Testimony. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

SCHWARTZ, McLEOD, DuRANT & JORDAN

William E. DuRant, Jr.

WEDjr/pt

**Enclosures** 

CC: Mr. Richard Carraway Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire Steve W. Hamm, Esquire PUBLIC SERVICE

#### **BEFORE** THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF **SOUTH CAROLINA**

	THE PUBLIC SERVICE SOUTH CAR	SS CONTRACTOR	
IN RE:	Carraways Treasures & Collectibles  v.  Verizon South and mers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	) ) ) Docket No. 2008-347-C ) )	

### AFFIDAVIT OF RONALD K. NESMITH

- I, Ronald K. Nesmith, under penalty of perjury, affirm and state this 15th day of December, 2008:
- 1. My name is Ronald K. Nesmith. I am the External Affairs & Chief Regulatory Officer of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. My office is located at 1101 E. Main Street, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556.
- 2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony on behalf of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., having been prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in the above-captioned docket.
- 3. I have knowledge of the matters set forth therein. I hereby affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to the questions propounded, including any attachment thereto, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

SWORN to before me this 15 day of December, 2008.

NOTARY PUBLIC FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

My Commission Expires: New 26, 2017

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN RE:	Carraways Treasures & Collectibles	)
	v.	) ) Docket No. 2008-347-C
Far	Verizon South and mers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	) ) )
1 441		)

# DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RONALD K. NESMITH ON BEHALF OF FARMERS TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

- Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- A. My name is Ronald K. Nesmith. My business address is 1101 E. Main Street, Kingstree, South Carolina 29556.
- Q. BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?
- A. I am employed by Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (FTC) as the Company's External Affairs & Chief Regulatory Officer.
- Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY OUTLINE YOUR EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY?
- A. I earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Francis Marion University.

  I began my telecommunications career at FTC in June of 1973 as a network technician and, with the opening of a new position within the accounting department, transferred to the accounting department in 1975. Since 1975, I have worked in many areas of

responsibility involving internal policies and procedures, settlements and external affairs with connecting carriers, access billing, negotiations of interconnection agreements, and regulatory functions including cost study work, rate design for tariff filings, access billing, and universal services.

## Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING TODAY BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?

- A. I am presenting testimony today on the behalf of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("FTC"), a telephone cooperative organized and doing business under the laws of the State of South Carolina and subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission. FTC provides telephone service, including high speed Internet service, in its service area adjacent to the Complainant's address at 2495 W. Highway 378, Pamplico, South Carolina 29583, which address is situated in the service area of Verizon South, Inc.
- Q. WHAT IS THE COMPANY ASKING THE COMMISSION TO DO IN THIS DOCKET?
- A. Carraways Treasures & Collectibles (the "Complainant") has asked the Commission for permission to change service providers from Verizon South, Inc. ("VRZ") to FTC in order to receive high speed internet, which is currently unavailable from VRZ at his current location. Although FTC may be capable of providing high speed internet service to the Complainant's location, it can only be provisioned over local exchange facilities currently delivering existing regulated voice service, in the form of an adjunct ancillary service only. Due to the Complainant's service location on the VRZ of the service boundary, FTC, as an incumbent local exchange carrier, cannot cross the service boundary in an extension of its local exchange facilities to provide regulated services in

another incumbent local exchange carrier's service area without the authority being granted by this Commission. FTC believes the Commission could rule in one of two ways to the Complainant's request: (1) rule that the request does not include a request to change voice service but that the request is solely for the provision of high speed internet, a service unregulated by this Commission and outside of its jurisdiction; or, (2) rule that the Complainant's request contained an implied request to change all services, regulated voice services and unregulated high speed internet services, to a new service provider and grant FTC the authority to extend its exchange service facilities across the FTC/Verizon service boundary in order to provide the requested services. FTC can comply with the request if so ordered by offering the Complainant high speed internet as a part of its regulated service.

#### Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. Yes it does. However, FTC requests the opportunity to supplement its testimony should the Complainant file any testimony in these proceedings which Complainant has elected not to do at this point in time.

#### **BEFORE**

#### THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

#### DOCKET NO. 2008-347-C

IN RE:	Carraways Treasures & Collectibles, Complainant	)
	•	) CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
	v.	)
		)
	Verizon South, Inc. and Farmers	)
	Telephone Cooperative, Inc.,	)
	Defendants	)

This is to certify that I, Patricia J. Thompson, an employee with Schwartz, McLeod, DuRant & Jordan, have this date served one (1) copy of the attached Direct Testimony of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. in the above referenced matter to the persons named below by causing said copies to be deposited with the United States Postal Service, sufficient first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto and return address clearly marked, and addressed as shown below.

Richard Carraway Carraways Treasures & Collectibles 2495 West Hwy 378 Pamplico, SC 29583 Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire Office of Regulatory Staff 1401 Main Street, Suite 900 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Steve W. Hamm, Esquire Richardson, Plowden, Carpenter & Robinson, PA P.O. Box 7788

Columbia, SC 29202

Patricia J. Thompson

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December 15, 2008 Sumter, South Carolina 2008 DEC 16 MM 10: 16